

Yuma CASA Program

Volunteers Voice

August 2012

Volume 3 Issue 8

IN THIS ISSUE:

COORDINATOR - 1

LUNCH WITH THE JUDGES - 2

YUMA COUNCIL FOR CASA - 2

THANK YOU & GOODBYE - 3

INCREASE KNOWLEDGE - 3

HUMAN TRAFFICKING - 4
& CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

MOVIE/BOOK REVIEWS - 5

CALENDAR, - 6
YEARS AS CASA &
BIRTHDAYS

PROGRAM STATISTICS - 7



Speak Out

A FEW WORDS FROM OUR COORDINATOR

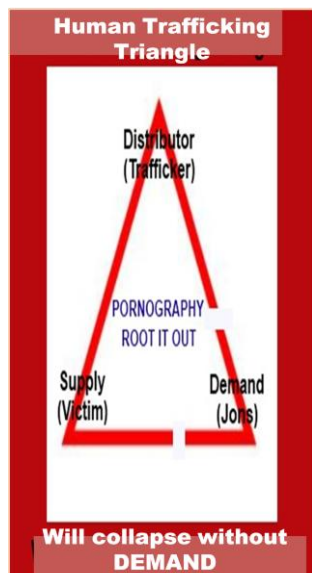
Thanks to all the volunteers who attended the lunch with our judges. I thought we had a good turnout and it was a very positive experience. The judges have been very supportive of the CASA program and are always open to questions and concerns from the Volunteers. This month's H.U.G should be very interesting and informative. The F.B.I. will be conducting a presentation on child sex trafficking & child sexual exploitation. I guarantee it will be very educationally rewarding. It sounds like the dependency roundtable trainings on July 18th & 19th were interesting and should be very helpful when CPS starts implementing the roundtables to expedite permanency in our dependency cases.

Our Day of Education will be October 5th at the Clarion Suites, here in Yuma. It will be an all-day training with breakfast and lunch served. The training is being provided by Yuma Council for CASA, Inc. based on a grant they received from The United Way. We have some great speakers who will be presenting. I expect all Volunteers to be in attendance. Please make sure you register by clicking on the **Register** link on the training flyer.

We had 2 Volunteers attend the July CASA Advocacy Academy in Phoenix. Our goal is to have 40 active Volunteers working cases by the end of the year, and I am happy to say we are on pace to do so. We will be having another swearing-in ceremony sometime in August for new Volunteers or any current Volunteers who never had the opportunity to do so. I will be sending out the date for the swearing-in ceremony in the next week or so.

Please remember I am here to support you in every human way possible. My office door is always open to all of you. If you need to speak with me about anything please call me or Veronica to schedule a time to meet. We always appreciate all of your feedback. I am really excited about the rest of the year. The program is growing with each day and we have some great things on the horizon. Thanks again for all of your hard work, dedication, and devotion to the children we serve.

--Dennis



Newsletter Committee

Editor - Susan/Cindi

Design/Layout - Ruth



**Kathryn
Stocking-Tate**

**Mark W.
Reeves**

**Dennis
O'Rourke**

Lunch with the Judges...

From the comments expressed by attendees, everyone found the H.U.G. lunch meeting with our two judges interesting and beneficial. As a new CASA it was exciting to hear the educational and work experience of each Judge and their motivation for serving in Juvenile Court. They expressed their appreciation for the passion most CASAs possess and understand the frustration in cases moving slower than we like.

The free flowing interaction between the Judges and CASAs was great. The bottom line is we're all trying to do what is best for the children. One thing to remember is that they must act within the law, even if they would like to do something else. They must be able to show everything possible has been done to reunite families. It can be a long process but eventually termination of parental rights will occur if parents cannot or refuse to provide a safe environment for their children. Termination is forever, so they must be convinced it is the only alternative to keeping children safe.

Submitted by Ruth Sanchez

Yuma Council for CASA, Inc. (YCCI)

YCCI is a non-profit organization which raises funds for the Yuma County CASA Program to serve the unmet needs of the at risk, abused and neglected children of Yuma County.

Welcome new CASAs and great gratitude for seasoned CASAs!

We want to remind you we are here to support you and your kids. YCCI has a budget that runs from Jan-Dec. Some of the budgeted items: Library Resources, Training, Kids Christmas Party, and Higher Education Scholarships.

When there is a need for funds by your CASA kids, we want to help. We have had the privilege of funding sports glasses, summer camp opportunities, rental of musical instruments, and clothing and toiletry purchases to name a few. If you see a need, please let Dennis know so he can notify the Board. A formal request should be completed and brought to the Board. Needs are numerous and not all can be granted so the sooner you submit your request, the better. We want to help in as many ways as we can but each request is taken on its own merit.

Please mark October 5th, 2012 for "Day of Education" Training.

--Submitted by Brooke Adams-Ferguson, YCCI President

Thank You & Goodbye Laurene

We offer a big hearty "thank you" and words of appreciation to Laurene McGlothlen. She has accepted a position at another agency and has resigned as a CASA Volunteer. She served on the Newsletter Committee from its inception and was instrumental in developing and publishing this important tool for CASAs and our partners.

We have received many compliments on the Newsletter's effectiveness and professional quality. Laurene's countless hours of devotion to the CASA Program and newsletter are greatly appreciated. She was the 2009 CASA of the Year. She and Dennie were also Mr. & Mrs. Santa for 4 or 5 years, ran the booth for Safe Halloween, and were the photographers for our banquets and Christmas parties. She was also a friend to many of us and will be missed. Laurene, we appreciate your past endeavors and wish you success in your new position.



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES-- Increase your knowledge



FBI personnel will cover the topic of Human Trafficking and child exploitation at this month's H.U.G. meeting, on August 9th in the Detention Training Room. Come out and learn what you can do to stop this horrendous situation. See the next page for a program overview.

Check out the books and movies at the CASA office Library. As CASAs we should learn all we can about situations that affect children. The monthly themes draw our attention to topics we should learn more about.

You are invited to prepare book or movie reviews to share with others about what you read or movies you see. You may encourage others to increase their knowledge on these topics.

The CASA movies shown on the last Friday of each month are excellent opportunities to broaden your knowledge. It's also a good opportunity to socialize with other CASAs. You may bring a lunch and/or eat the popcorn served. Hope to see you there.

Remember to read the article recently e-mailed to you by the CASA office on the booster seat requirement to become effective on August 2nd. This also applies to the CASA children we transport in our cars.

Human Trafficking and Crimes Against Children

The FBI will give an overview of these subjects at the H.U.G. meeting, August 9th, in the Detention Training Room at 11:30. Special Agent Jaime Magallon submitted the program information below.

Human Trafficking Key Points. Human Trafficking is a crime that often goes unreported, even though it is considered to be one of the fastest growing criminal industries in the world. It is speculated that Human Trafficking is now the third largest source of profits for organized crime, behind drugs and arms trafficking. Every year human traffickers generate billions of dollars in profits by victimizing millions of people around the world. U.S. government and researchers are working on updating current victim estimates, but research shows that every year 100,000 children fall victim to sex trade within the United States. That number increases to the hundreds of thousands when you incorporate adult victims within the sex trade and forced-labor field. The FBI presentation will cover:

- What is Human Trafficking
- Who are the victims of Human Trafficking
- How to detect Human Trafficking

Crimes Against Children. It's nearly unthinkable, but every year thousands of children become victims of crime—whether it's through kidnappings, violent attacks, or sexual abuse. The mission of our Crimes Against Children program is threefold: first, to decrease the vulnerability of children to sexual exploitation; second, to develop a nationwide capacity to provide a rapid, effective, and measured investigative response to crimes against children; and third, to enhance the capabilities of state and local law enforcement investigators through programs, investigative assistance, and task force operations. The FBI presentation will cover:

- What are Crimes Against Children
- Who are the Child Predators
- Indicators of Crimes Against Children
- Crime Against Children Statistics

Please mark your calendars and be sure to attend this informative presentation. You will not want to miss it.

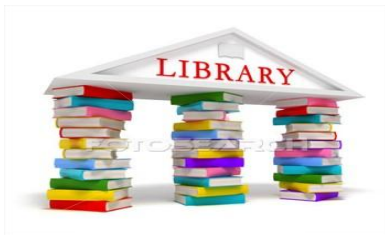


Movie Review

CARGO: Innocence Lost -- A compelling and educational film that explores the world of sex trafficking in the United States. DVD is available from many sources, including Amazon.com.

Come out and watch this movie at the CASA Movie Matinee: **"Bring your lunch"**

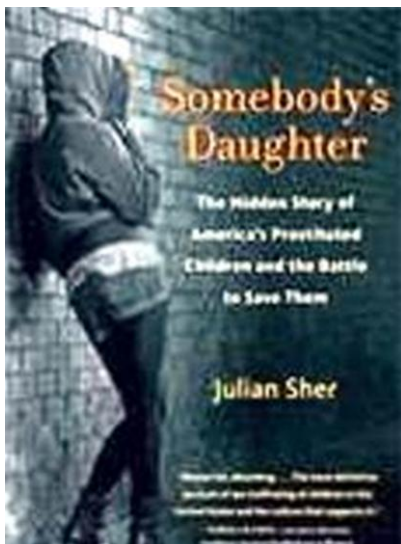
When: 11:30 a.m., Friday, August 31st Where: Detention Training Room



Book Review

Somebody's Daughter -- The Hidden Story of America's Prostituted Children and the Battle to Save Them

Author: Julian Sher Published January 1, 2011



They are America's forgotten children, the hundreds of thousands of child prostitutes who walk the Las Vegas Strip, the casinos of Atlantic City, the truck stops on interstates, and the street corners of our cities. Many people wrongly believe sex trafficking involves young women from foreign lands. In reality, the majority of teens caught in the sex trade are American girls--runaways and throwaways who become victims of ruthless pimps.

In *Somebody's Daughter: The Hidden Story of America's Prostituted Children and the Battle to Save Them*, meet the girls who are fighting for their dignity, the cops who are trying to rescue them, and the community activists battling to protect the nation's most forsaken children. Author Julian Sher takes you behind the scenes to expose one of America's most underreported crimes: A girl from New Jersey gets arrested in Las Vegas and, at great risk to her own life, helps the FBI take down a million-dollar pimping empire. An abused teenager in Texas has the courage to take the stand in a grueling trial that sends her pimp away for 75 years. Survivors of the sex trade in New York, Phoenix, and Minneapolis set up shelters and rescue centers that offer young girls a chance to break free from the streets. "The sex trade is the new drug trade," says one FBI special agent, and *Somebody's Daughter* is a call to action, shining a light on America's dirty little secret.

--By Chicago Review Press

August 2012



“Do your part to stop human trafficking”

			1 Contact Logs Due	2	3	4
			FCRB	FCRB		
5	6	7	8	9 HUG 11:30 DTR “Human Trafficking”	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Lunch 12:00 at The Landing	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Movie Matinee 11:30 DTR Bring lunch	



Anniversaries - August

Tina Eaton

5 yrs.

Christine Harper

1 yr.



Birthdays

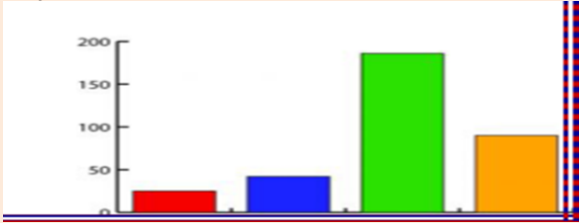
Susan Steenhard 13th

Nina Wilson 29th

Program Statistics

CASE STATISTICS—

By Veronica Davis



Court reports for month of July

- 1-Eunie Sinacsi / Cindi Lafromboise
- 1-Susan Steenhard
- 2-Kerrie Underhill / Sue Tilley
- 1-Adam and Vicki Freund
- 1-Nina Wilson
- 1-Kerrie Underhill / Sue Tilley / Ruth Sanchez

Currently the office has approximately:

- 32 cases with over 60 kids assigned
- 86 cases with over 169 kids unassigned

In July, received 11 new cases with 23 kids

Since January 2012, 7 adoptions were finalized.



Just A Reminder
The Newsletter committee is always looking for new topics or ideas. If you have a story or an article that you would like to share as well as any suggestions, please send an email to sanchezra@hotmail.com or speak with Dennis.



Court Appointed Special Advocate *Contact Info*

**Casa Program
Yuma County Juvenile Justice Center
2440 W. 28th Street
Yuma, AZ 85364**

Tel: 928.314.1830

Fax: 928.314.1995

E-mail:

dorourke@courts.az.gov

vis@courts.az.gov

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.supreme.state.az.us/casa/default.htm>



*Make a difference in a child's life—
Become a CASA Volunteer*